GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6622
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2000
EYE SURGERY
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been cases of eye blinding during the operations undertaken not only by private agencies but by the Government sponsored eye operations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have enquired into these mishaps;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action/precautions taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) to (e) : Currently 30 to 35 lakh Cataract Operations are performed per year in the country. During the last three years, 5 instances of post-operative complications leading to loss of eyesight have been reported by the states. The number of persons who are reported to have lost their eyesight are 32 in Maharashtra, 24 in Kerala, 24 in Andhra Pradesh, 6 in Orissa and 4 in Uttar Pradesh. The respective State Governments conducted enquires into the incidents. Main reasons leading to loss of eyesight were infection due to improper sterilization and inadequate Operation Theater etc. Appropriate action was taken by the State against responsible officials. Instructions have been issued to all concerned to strictly implement technical guidelines issued by the Government of India.